UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/633,289	08/04/2000	Dongyan Wang	SAM1.0068	3259

7590 09/22/2004

ATTEN: KENNETH L. SHERMAN, ESQ.
MYERS DAWES ANDRAS & SHERMAN, LLP
19900 MACARTHUR BLVD.
SUITE 1150
IRVINE, CA 92612

EXAMINER	
BURGESS, BARBARA N	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2157	

DATE MAILED: 09/22/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/633,289	WANG ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Barbara N Burgess	2157	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *14 June 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-53* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-53* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

This Office Action is in response to amendments filed June 14, 2004. Claims 1-53 are presented for further consideration.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-5, 8-22, 25-40, 43-53 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Humpleman et al. (hereinafter "Humpleman", 6,466,971) in view of Newlin et al. (hereinafter "Newlin", 6,011,909).

As per claims 1, 18, 33, 36, 51, Humpleman discloses a method for providing user interfaces in a first network including first devices interconnected via a communication medium and at least one interface device connecting said first network to at least a second network providing services, comprising the steps of:

in each of one or more devices in the first network:

(a) Obtaining information from one or more of said first devices currently connected to the first network, said information including device information comprising user interface information for user interaction with that device (column 3, lines 12-25,column 5, lines 23-30); and

(b) Generating a description based on the user interface information, the user interface description including:

(1) At least one reference associated with the device information of each of said one or more first devices (column 2, lines 43-46, 57-63, column 3, lines 10-16).

Humpleman does not explicitly disclose

- At least one reference associated with the services provided by the second network, wherein the user interface description allows displaying a user interface for controlling the devices that are currently connected to the first network and furnishing services of the second network to at least a user.

However, in an analogous art, Newlin discloses an apparatus connected to three separate and independent networks. The user interface provides for audio input and output. The PSTN provides caller identification information to the user interface while the ISDN identification information is included in signaling information presented to the user. The user interface captures and interprets control signals to provide functionality across various separate and independent networks (abstract, column 3, lines 5-13, 42-50, column 4, lines 30-40, 60-63, 66-67, column 5, lines 1-5).

Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have found it obvious to implement or incorporate in Humpleman's method At least one reference associated with the services provided by the second network, wherein the user interface description allows displaying a user interface for controlling the devices that are currently connected to the first network and furnishing services of the second network to at least a user

enabling a user engaged in a video conference on the ISDN network to simultaneously receive a POTS call via PSTN.

As per claims 2, 19, 37, Humpleman does not explicitly disclose wherein the first network comprises a 1394 network, and the second network comprises a non-1394 network. However, the use and advantages for using such networks is well known to one skilled in the relevant art at the time the invention was made as evidenced by Newlin (column 3, lines 5-10).

Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have found it obvious to implement or incorporate in Humpleman's method At least one reference associated with the services provided by the second network, wherein the user interface description allows displaying a user interface for controlling the devices that are currently connected to the first network and furnishing services of the second network to at least a user enabling a user engaged in a video conference on the ISDN network to simultaneously receive a POTS call via PSTN.

As per claims 3, 20, 38, Humpleman further discloses the method of claim 1, wherein the interface device comprises a gateway device (column 5, lines 18-27, 37-45, 57-63).

As per claims 4, 21, 39, Humpleman does not explicitly disclose the method of claim 1, wherein the second network comprises a plurality of interconnected second devices providing one or more services. However, in an analogous art, Newlin discloses an apparatus connected to three separate and independent networks. The user interface provides for audio input and output.

The PSTN provides caller identification information to the user interface while the ISDN identification information is included in signaling information presented to the user. The user interface captures and interprets control signals to provide functionality across various separate and independent networks (abstract, column 3, lines 5-13, 42-50, column 4, lines 30-40, 60-63, 66-67, column 5, lines 1-5).

Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have found it obvious to implement or incorporate in Humpleman's method the second network comprises a plurality of interconnected second devices providing one or more services enabling a user engaged in a video conference on the ISDN network to simultaneously receive a POTS call via PSTN.

As per claims 5, 22, 40, Humpleman does not explicitly disclose the method of claim 4, wherein each of said second devices comprises at least one computer system programmed to provide services.

However, in an analogous art, Newlin discloses an apparatus connected to three separate and independent networks. The user interface provides for audio input and output. The PSTN provides caller identification information to the user interface while the ISDN identification information is included in signaling information presented to the user. The user interface captures and interprets control signals to provide functionality across various separate and independent networks (abstract, column 3, lines 5-13, 42-50, column 4, lines 30-40, 60-63, 66-67, column 5, lines 1-5).

Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have found it obvious to implement or incorporate in Humpleman's method each of second devices

comprises at least one computer system programmed to provide services enabling a user engaged in a video conference on the ISDN network to simultaneously receive a POTS call via PSTN.

As per claims 8, 25, 43, Humpleman discloses the method of claim 1, wherein each reference in the user interface description associated to services provided by the second network comprises at least one hyper-text link to service information in the second network (column 9, lines 30-50).

As per claims 9,26, 44, Humpleman does not explicitly disclose the method of claim 1 further including the step of:

(a) Displaying a user interface based on said user interface description on a device connected to the first network capable of displaying a user interface, for user control of said first devices and communication with the second network. However, in an analogous art, Newlin discloses providing an alert to the user interface during the first network communication session indicating the occurrence of the second network signal (abstract, column 4, lines 5-13).

Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have found it obvious to implement or incorporate generating a user interface description in Humpleman's method in order for the user to be aware of an incoming signal.

As per claims 10, 27, 45, Humpleman further discloses the method of claim 9, wherein the step of displaying each user interface further includes the steps of:

Using each reference in the corresponding user interface description to access the associated information in each first device (column 2, lines 43-46, 57-63, column 3, lines 10-16). Humpleman does not explicitly discloses:

- Using each reference associated with services provided by the second network to access corresponding service information.
- Generating the user interface including:

(1) Information corresponding to each first device using the accessed information in each first device, and (2) service information; and displaying the user interface on said device capable of displaying a user interface. However, in an analogous art, Newlin discloses providing an alert to the user interface during the first network communication session indicating the occurrence of the second network signal (abstract, column 4, lines 5-13).

Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have found it obvious to implement or incorporate generating a user interface description in Humpleman's method in order for the user to be aware of an incoming signal.

As per claims 11, 34, 52, Humpleman discloses the method of claim 1, wherein the step of generating a user interface description further comprises the steps of:
Associating a hyper-text link with the device information of one or more of said first devices, and associating at least a hyper-text link with the service information provided by the second network (column 9, lines 30-50).

As per claims 12, 35, 53, Humpleman does not explicitly disclose the method of claim 1, wherein: (1) the device information in each device in the first network includes a user interface description for user interaction with that device, and (2) the service information in the second network includes at least a user interface description for user interaction with a service. However, in an analogous art, Newlin discloses providing an alert to the user interface during the first network communication session indicating the occurrence of the second network signal (abstract, column 4, lines 5-13).

Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have found it obvious to implement or incorporate generating a user interface description in Humpleman's method in order for the user to be aware of an incoming signal

As per claims 13, 28, 46, Humpleman discloses the method of claim 1, wherein each reference associated with services provided by the second network comprises at least one hyper-text link to service information in the second network, wherein the service information comprises at least identification information representing a service (column 9, lines 30-50).

As per claims 14, 29, 47, Humpleman discloses the method of claim 13, wherein the identification information comprises a logo information file including a link to a logo graphic representing the service (column 3, lines 20-30).

As per claims 15, 30, 48, Humpleman does not explicitly disclose the method of claim 1, wherein the second network includes at least a first portal for providing services, and a reference

associated with services provided by the second network comprises at least one hyper-text link to said first portal, wherein the first portal includes service information comprising at least identification information representing said services provided by the first portal.
However, in an analogous art, Newlin discloses an apparatus connected to three separate and independent networks. The user interface provides for audio input and output. The PSTN provides caller identification information to the user interface while the ISDN identification information is included in signaling information presented to the user. The user interface captures and interprets control signals to provide functionality across various separate and independent networks (abstract, column 3, lines 5-13, 42-50, column 4, lines 30-40, 60-63, 66-67, column 5, lines 1-5).

Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have found it obvious to implement or incorporate in Humpleman's method each of second devices comprises at least one computer system programmed to provide services enabling a user engaged in a video conference on the ISDN network to simultaneously receive a POTS call via PSTN.

As per claims 16, 31, 49, Humpleman discloses the method of claim 15, wherein the said identification information in the first portal further comprises a hyper-link to service information provided by a second portal in the second network (column 9, lines 30-50).

As per claims 17, 32, 50, Humpleman does not explicitly disclose the method of claim 16, wherein:

The second network comprises a plurality of interconnected computer systems programmed to provide services;

The first portal comprises one or more of said computer systems providing services of the first portal; and

The second portal comprises one or more of said computer systems providing services of the second portal.

However, in an analogous art, Newlin discloses an apparatus connected to three separate and independent networks. The user interface provides for audio input and output. The PSTN provides caller identification information to the user interface while the ISDN identification information is included in signaling information presented to the user. The user interface captures and interprets control signals to provide functionality across various separate and independent networks (abstract, column 3, lines 5-13, 42-50, column 4, lines 30-40, 60-63, 66-67, column 5, lines 1-5).

Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have found it obvious to implement or incorporate in Humpleman's method each of second devices comprises at least one computer system programmed to provide services enabling a user engaged in a video conference on the ISDN network to simultaneously receive a POTS call via PSTN.

3. Claims 6-7, 23-24, 41-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Humpleman et al. (hereinafter "Humpleman", 6,466,971) in view of Newlin et al. (hereinafter "Newlin", 6,011,909) and in further view of Rosenberg et al. (hereinafter "Rosenberg", 6,101,530).

As per claims 6, 23, 41, Humpleman, in view of Newlin, does not explicitly disclose the method of claim 4, wherein:

At least one of said second devices providing services comprises one or more web servers providing services. However, the use and advantages for using web servers is well known to one skilled in the relevant art at the time the invention was made as evidenced by Rosenberg (column 3, lines 25-30, column 5, lines 1-3, 38-41, 44-46, Abstract).

Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have found it obvious to implement or incorporate a web server in Humpleman's method allowing a web page to be sent to the requesting client.

As per claims 7, 24, 42, Humpleman, in view of Newlin, does not explicitly disclose the method of claim 6, wherein a service provided by at least one of the devices connected to the second network comprises a web site service. In an analogous art, Rosenberg discloses the web server sending web pages (websites) to the client (column 3, lines 25-30, column 5, lines 1-3, 38-41, 44-46, Abstract).

Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have found it obvious to implement or incorporate a device connected to the second network comprising a web site service in Humpleman's method allowing a web page to be sent to the requesting client.

Response to Arguments

The Office notes the following arguments:

(a) Hara does not disclose "A method for providing user interfaces in a first network including first devices interconnected via a communication medium and at least one interface device connecting said first network to at least a second network providing services, the user interfaces for controlling the devices that are currently connected to the first network and furnishing services of the second network to at least a user," as required by claim 1.

(b) Hara does not disclose "in each of one or more devices in the first network (a) obtaining information from one or more of said first devices currently connected to the first network" as claimed by claim 1.

(c) Hara discloses no user interface.

(d) Hara does not disclose first network devices connected to second external network devices.

In response to:

(a)-(d) Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Barbara N Burgess whose telephone number is (703) 305-3366. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00am-4:00pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (703) 308-7562. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Barbara N Burgess
Examiner
Art Unit 2157

***

ARIO ETIENNE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100